

THURSDAY, MAY 27, 1875.]

[CONFIDENTIAL.]

SELECTIONS
FROM THE
VERNACULAR NEWSPAPERS
PUBLISHED IN THE PANJAB,
NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCES,
ODDH AND CENTRAL PROVINCES,

Received up to 15th May, 1875.

POLITICAL (DOMESTIC).

A correspondent of the *Atalik-i-Hind* of the 1st May calls upon the municipal committee of Bareilly to follow the example of the Budaun municipality in advancing money to those poor persons who cannot afford the expense of tiling their houses. The writer adds that, as fires are of daily occurrence in the city, the municipal committee should procure fire-engines.

The same paper learns from its correspondent at Multan that, notwithstanding strict prohibitory orders from the Panjab Government, one or two officers there, apparently Hindustanis, are in the habit of using abusing language in Court.

The same paper invites attention to the filthy state of Dera Ismail Khan. Heaps of dirt are to be seen everywhere, which produce a most offensive smell. Unless the authorities soon take notice of the abuse, it is feared an epidemic will break out. The bad practice of sweeping the streets at times when they are most frequented by passengers is also objected to.

The *Benares Gazette* of the 4th May invites attention to the loss suffered by the people in consequence of the great delay which ensues in the decision of their cases in Courts. In criminal cases especially persons convicted and sentenced to imprisonment by the Court of first instance remain long in imprisonment, and are afterwards found guiltless and acquitted on appeal. The incarceration and disgrace which they thus have to undergo for nothing cannot be compensated.

The same paper sees no good in keeping registration offices. A large number of the documents registered at these offices from time to time are found to be forged, and the identification plan recently instituted in order to prevent imposture is a failure, because two or three persons are kept in each registration office who can identify all persons who come up before them if they be only paid something. It would be much better to require inhabitants of cities to be identified by the mukhtars of the muhallas of which they are residents, and inhabitants of villages by patwaris.

The *Iftikhar-ul-Akhbar* of the 5th May complains that many of the paid letters despatched through the agency of the Government Post-offices are lost or destroyed and never reach the addressees. This is said to be owing chiefly to the neglect of delivery peons, who often intrust the delivery of such letters to their friends or other persons, who of course do with them what they like.

The *Khair-Khwah-i-Alam* of the same date invites attention to the following instances of bad management of the grand annual fair recently held in the Shulamar Gardens at Lahore :—

(a.) The conveyances which went from the city contained an indefinite number of persons each. The constables posted at the road to prohibit the unlawful practice overlooked it on being paid something.

(b.) The fair is not held on a fixed date. Last year it was held in March, while this year it came off in the end of

April. It would be good if the month of March, which is comparatively less hot, were fixed as the time for holding the fair.

(c.) No arrangements were made for watering the road, in consequence of which all persons who attended the fair were put to great inconvenience. The attention of the municipal committee should be directed to this.

The last is a common complaint in the Lahore papers.

The *Akhbar-i-Am* of the same date, in its column of local news, notices the inconvenience suffered by the people in consequence of the streets of the Anarkali Bazar (Lahore) not being watered in the evening, and calls upon the municipal committee to remove the grievance.

The *Akhbar-i-Am* of the 6th May has an article on evidence. The object is to show that the reason why cases are often wrongly decided in the English Courts of Law is that the witnesses in most of these cases are chiefly persons who are hired or otherwise induced by the parties concerned to give evidence in their favour, and that respectable native gentlemen, who are fully acquainted with the nature and particulars of the cases, decline to give evidence on account of the disgrace and ill-treatment consequent on the attendance at the Courts. For instance, they have to sit under the shade of trees, or to pace to and fro the verandah or the courtyard, in anxious expectation of the approach of the time when they will be wanted, and when such time comes they are called by name by a chaprasi and put into the witness-box. If the officer of the Court, through his imperfect acquaintance with the vernacular, cannot understand what they say, he uses harsh and sometimes even abusive language towards them. Some officers, indeed, who are kind and obliging, provide seats for respectable natives, but such are very rare.

The editor goes on to say that the disgrace and ill-treatment above referred to are the lot of Hindustanis only, and

that Europeans are exempted from them, whether they be a party in a case or only witnesses,—a fact which he confirms by mentioning an instance which came under his own observation. Two respectable natives, who were honorary magistrates and members of the municipal committee, and had a monthly income of Rs. 1,000 each, on being called before a Joint Magistrate, who considers himself very just and intelligent, to give evidence in a case, were made to give their depositions standing in the witness-box ; while a European officer drawing Rs. 1,000 per mensem, who was also a witness in the same case, was provided with a chair all the time he stayed in Court.

The *Benares Akhbar* of the same date, in its local news column, mentions the killing of an old woman by an elephant belonging to the Maharaja of Benares, which was going with a marriage procession. The editor calls upon the municipal committee of Benares to prohibit elephants from passing within municipal limits, as has been done by the municipal committee of Ghazipur. The writer adds that the bad characters of the city have again become predominant, and invites the attention of the Magistrate to this.

The *Oudh Akhbar* of the 7th May mentions the killing of a police constable at Lucknow by thieves in a very cruel manner.

The editor also notices the mischief done in Lucknow and Kheri by a mad elephant belonging to the Commissariat. Many men and animals have been killed by him, and, notwithstanding the steps recently taken for his capture, he is still at large, and has caused great alarm among the villagers of Kheri. The writer hopes Government will make compensation for the loss the people have suffered from the elephant.

The *Hindu Prakash* of the same date, in an article communicated by a correspondent, invites attention to the unfair

practices of *arzi-navises*. The same man writes the petition of plaint and the defence, which is highly prejudicial to the interests of the plaintiff. Worse still, in Gurdaspur Tahsil there are two *arzi-navises* who, besides writing both petitions of plaints and their answers, conduct the after processes as officials of the tahsil. Such practice is extremely improper and unlawful, and should be put a stop to by a strict order prohibiting the same man from drawing up the plaint and the defence.

The same paper mentions the frequency of thefts and other crimes in the vicinity of the Pakharpura police station in the Gurdaspur district, and asks Government to adopt the necessary preventive measures.

Under the heading "Sialkot" the same paper notices the common practice there of maliciously setting fire to grain stored after reaping.

The *Akhbar-i-Anjuman-i-Hind* of the same date condemns the recent order of the Judicial Commissioner of Oudh discontinuing the publication of Urdu translations of the decisions of civil and rent suits. The editor remarks on the usefulness of the translations to the people generally, and to pleaders and mukhtars particularly, and is at a loss to understand why their publication has been stopped. He adds that when in the North-Western Provinces Urdu versions of the decisions of the High Court are published for the benefit of the people, there seems to be no reason why the inhabitants of Oudh should be deprived of a similar privilege.

The same paper says that the high expectations entertained of the Officiating Chief Commissioner by the people of Oudh have been fully realized. Pitying the miserable condition of the native gentlemen of the province, he has been pleased to issue a circular to all Commissioners subordinate to him, calling upon them to submit a list of all Government officials as well as native gentlemen in their respective districts worthy of being exalted to tahsildarships and extra

assistant commissionerships, with their own recommendations, due regard being had in making such recommendations to all particulars connected with the family and antecedents of the nominees; and to continue doing so year by year. The editor hopes the Officiating Chief Commissioner will see that due effect is given to the above circular by the Deputy Commissioners, and that it does not share the same fate at their hands as a similar circular issued in 1873 did.

Under the heading "Rai Bareli" the same paper mentions the plundering by dacoits near Bachharwan of Prince Sahdev Singh's camel dak-gari, in which Maya, the Prince's *mistri*, was travelling with his wife. All the ornaments and clothes of the latter were carried away by the robbers. The editor regrets that such crimes should happen in the British dominions under the very eyes of the police.

The *Oudh Akhbar* of the 9th May invites attention to the distress suffered by the inhabitants of Bombay owing to the prevailing scarcity of water there. The pipes do not conduct the water to the upper storeys of the houses, nor are the persons living in them allowed by the inhabitants of the lower storeys to make use of the water supplied to them by the pipes; while *bhistis* charge two pice for a small skin of water. Worse still, the wells and tanks of the city were closed up on the introduction of the water-works, and the lessees of houses have to pay to their owners, in addition to the house-rent, double and even treble of what the latter pay to Government as water-rate. Government should see to all this.

A correspondent of the same paper, writing from Bahraich, says that cholera is frightfully prevalent in that district. One or two persons die every day in the city, and as many as 30 or 40 in the environs. The total number of deaths up to the date of the correspondent's writing was upwards of 800.

The *Agra Akhbar* of the 10th May, noticing the distress brought on the poor people of that city owing to the destruc-

tion of their houses by the recent fires, thinks that the Magistrate would do well to allow something to all such persons out of the balance of the fund which had been raised for the relief of the sufferers from the heavy rains of the past year.

The *Ashraf-ul-Akhbar* of the 11th May notices the inconvenience suffered by the people of the Chakrata Cantonment (North-Western Provinces), owing to the Small Cause Court there being empowered with the cognizance of suits up to the value of Rs. 200 only, and calls upon Government to restore the old arrangements under which the Court was authorized to hear suits up to Rs. 1,000.

The *Shula-i-Tur* of the same date, in an article contributed by a correspondent, commends the case of the subordinate officials of tahsils to the favourable consideration of Government. Unlike the servants of all other offices, who receive gradual promotion, the muharrirs of tahsils stay on in the same post for years together without getting any promotion, which is unjust.

POLITICAL (FOREIGN).

A correspondent of the *Riyaz-ul-Akhbar* of 1st May states on good authority that the Nawab of Patodi (Delhi) has, at the instigation of his Muhammadan Judge (*Kazi*), killed some Brahmans of his State and demolished some Hindu temples, and that for this reason the State is about to be annexed to the British dominions, and the Judge to be called to a strict account.

The same paper says that the entertainment recently given by the Maharaja of Patiala to the Viceroy at his capital cost Rs. 50,000.

A correspondent of the *Mayo Memorial Gazette*, writing from Jodhpur, mentions the following particulars connected with that State:—

(a.) The Maharaja has brought such a large number of dogs of all kinds with him that carts containing those animals continued coming to the city for six days in succession.

(b.) The Maharaja is going to borrow a lakh of rupees for State purposes from a banker of Ajmere. The preliminaries have already been arranged. This is the first instance on record of the State procuring a loan from a foreigner, although no absolute necessity for it exists.

(c.) The police officers practise great oppression on the people. The recent affray between the police detective at Goda and the Thakur of that *ilaka* is an instance in point.

(d.) The police are also negligent in the discharge of their duties. Two persons were recently plundered by robbers near the *nala* at a short distance from a police station.

The same paper of the 5th May, quoting the *Delhi Gazette*, contradicts the statement made in a recent issue of the *Pioneer* as to the claimant to the Landhaura State having been fully identified on the 16th April at Saharanpur as a low caste Sikh from Hoshiarpur. The real facts connected with the inquiry held on the aforesaid date were these:—A few days before the inquiry, the Superintendent of Police, Saharanpur, left for the Panjab, accompanied by Nathu Singh (the uncle of Raja Raghubir Singh and the present *Pradhan*, or Prime Minister of Landhaura) and several members of his family, in order, as he gave out, to bring the defendant's father, mother, brother, &c. Nathu Singh took with him Rs. 5,000. The party returned from the Panjab with five or six witnesses, and the inquiry commenced. The first witness, or the so-called father of the defendant, swore on oath that he would carefully recognize him, but on being brought before him he declared he could not identify the man, and that he neither knew nor had ever seen him before. The next witness, or the so-called mother of the defendant, was then called for; but she was blind, and of course could not recognize the man.

The *Khair-Khwah-i-Alam* of the same date says that the alleged charge of having prepared a document containing complaints against the Maharaja of Patiala for transmission to the Governor-General preferred by the party in favour of the Prime Minister (*vide* page 123 of the *Selections* for the week

ending 1st May last), has resulted in the imprisonment of one man for life, of two for 14 years each, and of a fourth, Khuda Bakhsh Khan, for an indefinite period. The writer adds that since the above agitation has sprung up the Maharaja seldom leaves the fort.

A number of papers continue to censure the action of the Government in the Baroda case. Their criticisms are much the same as those quoted at length in the *Selections* of last week.

COMMERCIAL (RAILWAYS).

The *Atalik-i-Hind* of the 8th May, in an article contributed by a correspondent, draws attention to the following grievances in connection with the Northern State Railway:—

(a.) The train starts in the day time only, in order to save the expense of lighting the stations. This arrangement is very inconvenient to passengers owing to the excessive heat of the weather.

(b.) Persons of both sexes are huddled together in the same carriage, without any regard to rank or the rules of female privacy.

(c.) Owing to the insufficient number of carriages in each train, passengers have sometimes to travel in goods carriages and even in trollies.

(d.) The platforms of the stations have not been properly paved with *kunkar*, in consequence of which passengers suffer great trouble in walking on them.

(e.) The number of *bhistis* employed at the stations for supplying the passengers with water is insufficient.

A correspondent of the *Wakil-i-Hindustan* of the same date mentions a serious grievance which came under his personal observation at the Amritsar railway station, and in which he was a fellow sufferer with others. On the 12th April, out of 1,400 persons who had obtained tickets for Lahore, 1,300, and among these the writer, who having in vain

asked for a second, and then for an intermediate-class ticket was obliged to procure one for the third-class, were detained at the station for seven hours on account of the Jullunder train, in which they were to travel, being too full of passengers. The station-master assured the unfortunate men that another train had been telegraphed for especially for them from Lahore, and that it would be at the station at 6 P.M., but it did not come until 11 P.M. All this time the passengers had to bivouac in the open plain, exposed to rain and hail.

The attention of the Consulting Engineer, Panjab Railway, is invited to this.

EDUCATIONAL.

The *Kavi Vachan Sudha* of the 3rd May is glad to find that a Sanskrit College has been established in Benares city by the Maharaja of Kashmir, and the efforts of Vishwadanand Swami, the prime mover of the scheme, have been crowned with success. The editor hopes Government will not be behindhand in assigning a grant-in-aid to the institution ; but at the same time warns the Maharaja and the Swami not to be imposed upon by the shifts of any cunning Government officer who may be watching for an opportunity to take the college under his control, and then leave it alone to work its own ruin.

The editor of the *Akhbar-i-Anjuman-i-Panjab* of the 7th May publishes the prospectus of a new society which has been established by the Musalmans of Delhi with the object of reforming the vicious customs and manners of the country, and discussing subjects of popular utility.

The *Atalik-i-Hind* of the 8th May publishes the lecture delivered by Maulvi Muhammad Husan, Professor of Arabic, in the Government College at Lahore, at a recent meeting of the debating club in that city. The lecturer asserted that posts, such as naib tahsildarships, tahsildarships, &c., should in future be conferred chiefly on fit persons of the Educational Department, who will be instrumental in the spread and

development of the arts and sciences, and in creating a taste for accidental learning amongst the masses over whom they are appointed to rule.

The *Hindu Prakash* of the same date dwells on the usefulness of newspapers to students of colleges and schools, and calls upon the Panjab Government to purchase a certain number of copies of each of the newspapers published in that province for distribution in the schools. At present the Government patronizes only a few of the leading papers, which is not enough.

The *Nur-ul-Anwar* of the same date notices with pleasure the establishment of a new society at Cawnpore, under the designation of *Anjuman-i-Tahziḥ*, by certain enterprising Musalman gentlemen of that city. This association will supply the place of the Social Improvement Society established by the late Saiad Imdad Ali, Deputy Collector, but which was abolished on the Saiad's departure from Cawnpore.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The *Akhbar-i-Alam* of the 6th and the *Oudh Akhbar* and *Tahziḥ-ul-Akhlak* of the 7th May publish an obituary notice of Lord Hobart, Governor of Madras, praising him very highly for taking a cordial interest in promoting the welfare of the Musalmans such as no Governor from the beginning of the British rule in India to the present time ever took. His death is said to be a great loss to the Muhammadan community.

The *Nur-ul-Absar* of the 15th May notices the approaching visit of the Prince of Wales to India. The editor advises his countrymen not to waste their money in laying out a park, or in other similar objects, in order to commemorate the happy occasion, but to avail themselves of the opportunity to collect three or four crores of rupees, of which say fifty lakhs should be offered to the Prince as a present, and the remainder be laid out in establishing manufactories of cloth, glass, and china-ware, and in founding industrial schools in His Royal Highness' name.

The following Vernacular newspapers have been examined in this report :—

No.	NAMES OF NEWSPAPER.	LANGUAGE.	LOCALITY.	WHEN PUBLISHED.	DATE.	DATE OF RECEIPT.
1	Maksud-ul-Akhbar,	Urdu,	Gurgaon,	Weekly,	1875.	1875.
2	Nizam-ul-Asar,	Ditto,	Khairabad,	Tri-monthly,	April, 4th week,	May,
3	Lam-i-Nur,	Ditto,	Jaunpur,	Weekly,	May,	15th
4	Marwar Gazette,	Urdu and Hindi,	Jodhpur,	Ditto,	" 1st	10th
5	Muir Gazette,	Urdu,	Meerut,	Ditto,	" 2nd	12th
6	Nasim-i-Jaunpur,	Ditto,	Jaunpur,	Ditto,	" 3rd	10th
7	Rohilkhand Akhbar,	Ditto,	Moradabad,	Bi-weekly,	" 4th	10th
8	Khair Khwah-i-Alam,	Ditto,	Delhi,	Weekly,	" 5th	12th
9	Mayo Memorial Gazette,	Ditto,	Ditto,	Tri-monthly,	" 5th	10th
10	Akhbar-i-Alam,	Ditto,	Meerut,	Weekly,	" 6th	11th
11	Nur Afshan,	Ditto,	Ludhiana,	Ditto,	" 6th	12th
12	Benares Akhbar,	Hindi,	Benares,	Ditto,	" 6th	10th
13	Naiyir-i-Akbar,	Urdu,	Bijnor,	Ditto,	" 6th	12th
14	Lauh-i-Mahfuz,	Ditto,	Moradabad,	Ditto,	" 7th	10th
15	Aligarh Institute Gazette,	Urdu and English,	Aligarh,	Ditto,	" 7th	10th
16	Akhbar-i-Anjuman-i-Panjah,	Urdu,	Lahore,	Ditto,	" 7th	11th
17	Rajputana Social Science Congress Gazette.	Ditto,	Jaipur,	Ditto,	" 7th	12th
18	Tahzib-ul-Akhlaq,	Ditto,	Aligarh,	Not fixed,	" 7th	14th
19	Jalwa-i-Tur,	Ditto,	Meerut,	Weekly,	" 8th	10th
20	Meerut Gazette,	Ditto,	Ditto,	Ditto,	" 8th	16th
21	Urdu Delhi Gazette,	Ditto,	Agra,	Ditto,	" 8th	10th
22	Atalik-i-Hind,	Ditto,	Lahore,	Ditto,	" 8th	11th
23	Koh-i-Nur,	Ditto,	Ditto,	Ditto,	" 8th	11th

24	Panjabi Akhbar,	...	...	...	Ditto,	...	Lahore,	...	Weekly,	...	8th	11th
25	Nur-ul-Anwar,	...	...	...	Ditto,	...	Cawnpore,	...	Ditto,	...	8th	11th
26	Nur-ul-Afak,	...	...	...	Ditto,	...	Ditto,	...	Bi-monthly,	...	8th	11th
27	Urdu Akhbar,	...	...	...	Ditto,	...	Delhi,	...	Weekly,	...	8th	12th
28	Vakil-i-Hindustan,	...	...	...	Ditto,	...	Amritsar,	...	Ditto,	...	8th	12th
29	Hindu Prakash,	...	...	...	Ditto,	...	Ditto,	...	Ditto,	...	8th	12th
30	Akhbar-i-Anjuman-i-Hind,	...	...	...	Ditto,	...	Lucknow,	...	Ditto,	...	8th	12th
31	Rohilkhand Akhbar,	...	...	...	Ditto,	...	Moradabad,	...	Bi-weekly,	...	8th	13th
32	Najm-ul-Akhbar,	...	...	...	Ditto,	...	Meerut,	...	Weekly,	...	8th	14th
33	Khair Khwah-i-Panjab,	...	...	...	Ditto,	...	Gujranwala,	...	Ditto,	...	8th	15th
34	Rifah-i-Am,	...	...	...	Ditto,	...	Sialkote,	...	Ditto,	...	8th	15th
35	Oudh Akhbar,	...	...	...	Ditto,	...	Lucknow,	...	Tri-weekly,	...	9th	11th
36	Akmal-ul-Akhbar,	...	...	...	Ditto,	...	Delhi,	...	Weekly,	...	9th	13th
37	Gwalior Gazette,	...	...	...	Urdu and Hindi,	...	Gwalior,	...	Ditto,	...	9th	14th
38	Sadadarsha,	...	...	...	Anglo-Hindi,	...	Delhi,	...	Ditto,	...	10th	11th
39	Karnama,	...	...	...	Urdu,	...	Lucknow,	...	Ditto,	...	10th	12th
40	Dabdaba-i-Sikandari,	...	...	...	Ditto,	...	Rampur,	...	Ditto,	...	10th	12th
41	Vritt Dhara,	...	...	...	Marathi,	...	Dhar,	...	Ditto,	...	10th	13th
42	Agra Akhbar,	...	...	...	Urdu,	...	Agra,	...	Tri-monthly,	...	10th	14th
43	Patiala Akhbar,	...	...	...	Ditto,	...	Patiala,	...	Weekly,	...	10th	14th
44	Sadik-ul-Akhbar,	...	...	...	Ditto,	...	Bhawalpur,	...	Ditto,	...	10th	14th
45	Benares Gazette,	...	...	...	Ditto,	...	Benares,	...	Ditto,	...	10th	14th
46	Sudarsan Samachar,	...	...	...	Hindi,	...	Allahabad,	...	Bi-monthly,	...	10th	15th
47	Nasim-i-Jaunpur,	...	...	...	Urdu,	...	Jaunpur,	...	Weekly,	...	11th	13th
48	Shula-i-Tur,	...	...	...	Ditto,	...	Cawnpore,	...	Ditto,	...	11th	13th
49	Ashraf-ul-Akhbar,	...	...	...	Ditto,	...	Delhi,	...	Tri-monthly,	...	11th	13th
50	Lawrence Gazette,	...	...	...	Ditto,	...	Meerut,	...	Weekly,	...	11th	14th
51	Matla-i-Nur,	...	...	...	Ditto,	...	Cawnpore,	...	Ditto,	...	11th	15th
52	Naf-ul-Azim,	...	...	...	Arabic,	...	Lahore,	...	Ditto,	...	11th	15th
53	Oudh Akhbar,	...	...	...	Urdu,	...	Lucknow,	...	Tri-weekly,	...	12th	13th
54	Muir Gazette,	...	...	...	Ditto,	...	Meerut,	...	Weekly,	...	12th	14th

No.	NAMES OF NEWSPAPER.	LANGUAGE.	LOCALITY.	WHEN PUBLISHED.	DATE.	DATE OF RECEIPT.
55	Akhbar-i-Am,	Urdu,	Lahore,	Weekly,	1875. May,	1875. May,
56	Khair Khwah-i-Alam,	Ditto,	Delhi,	Ditto,	12th	15th
57	Shams-ul-Akhbar,	Ditto,	Lucknow,	Bi-monthly,	12th	15th
58	Oudh Akhbar,	Ditto,	Ditto,	Tri-weekly,	14th	15th
59	Nur-ul-Absar,	Ditto,	Allahabad,	Bi-monthly,	14th	15th
60	Urdu Delhi Gazette,	Ditto,	Agra,	Weekly,	15th	15th
61	Nur-ul-Anwar,	Ditto,	Cawnpore,	Ditto,	15th	15th

ALLAHABAD :
The 22nd May, 1875. }

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